

**Addendum No. 6 to RFP No. M07-1-7764-024
For Technical Support Effort Personnel (TSEP)
June 9, 1999**

In regard to the subject RFP, the following questions and corresponding answers are being provided to all proposers on this TSEP RFP website. Please acknowledge receipt of Addendum No. 6 in your proposal (i.e., Attachment A-1, ACKNOWLEDGMENT, Item 7). Addendum No. 1 covered Questions 1 through 3. Addendum No. 2 covered Questions 4 through 29. Addendum 3 covered Questions 30 through 64. Addendum 4 covered Questions 65 through 118. Addendum No. 5 covered Questions 119 through 133.

134. Question

The rate ranges for Engineering Technician V and Engineering Technician VI differ between Attachment A-18 of the RFP and Exhibit 13 of the Specimen Contract. Please clarify?

Answer 134

The rate ranges in Attachment A-18 are correct and will be used in Exhibit 13 of the Specimen Contract as follows:

Engineering Technician V: Minimum \$22.44 Maximum \$33.66

Engineering Technician VI: Minimum \$27.16 Maximum \$40.74

135. Question

Reference Answer 124. This response specifies that you wish cash in lieu of benefits to be expressed as a percent of the same base utilized in calculating column A of Attachment A.

The heading for Column C allows for a dollar amount or a percentage. Questions:

(a) Is it still acceptable to provide the entry as a dollar amount?

(b) Would it be permissible to provide a range (either dollar or percentage range), since it is likely that the amount and/or percentage will vary depending on 1) the salary level and 2) the benefits that the employee wishes to deny (some plans and/or companies may allow employees to deny some or all of the benefits)?

Answer 135

(a) It is not acceptable to provide the entries for Column C as a dollar amount. The heading for Column C does NOT allow for a dollar amount to be given as a proposed rate. It directs that if cash is paid in lieu of a benefit, then that amount is to be expressed as a percentage of the same labor base utilized in calculating Column A.

(b) No, it would not be permissible to provide a range of rates for the entries for Column C. A single rate, by group, will be utilized by JPL for billing purposes. Therefore, the offeror must propose their best estimate of their anticipated average cost for each of the four groups. Note that if an employee denies a benefit and elects to receive cash in lieu of (ILO) benefits then the cash ILO benefit amount must be included in the development of the percentage rates indicated in Column A and Column C.

136. Question

Referencing the requirement to have a secure facility as a Type I contractor, the RFP states the contractor must have a clear facility prior to contract award. At the Pre-Proposal conference, you stated that if your facility is not cleared during the time of contract award, a contract could not be awarded. However, under these circumstances, an existing facility must be cleared under another contract. In order to have these facilities cleared, another contract must be awarded and issued a DD254, which authorizes a clear facility. This appears to be a catch 22. Is it possible to obtain facility clearance after contract award, during the transitional period? (Our security personnel have ensured that the facility will be cleared within 2 weeks upon award of the contract.).

Answer 136

See Answer No. 112 in Addendum 4. JPL will not sponsor a company to acquire a facility clearance. A Type I proposer must have a secret facility clearance in place by contract award.

137. Question

Reference: Specimen Contract Article GP-65 and Exhibit G (Minimum Time Keeping Requirements). Both of these sections reference a JPL form (JPL 1964-S) as a timekeeping device. It is our understanding that use of Form 1964 was discontinued (effective October 1998). Please confirm that under the new contract, both personnel located at JPL locations and those working at off-lab facilities will not be required to complete Form 1964 as a timekeeping record.

Answer 137

You are correct. Form 1964-S was deleted by Article 5, "Alterations to This Contract," paragraph 1.2, on page T of the Specimen Contract.

138. Question

XYZ Company has been in business for one year, and over that time period we have placed over 240 people on contract assignments, but not at one time. Do we meet the RFP's Mandatory Qualification Requirement?

Answer 138

See Answer 120 in Addendum 5.

139. Question

Per the RFP Cost Volume Instructions, offerors are to complete and return the RFP Attachment A-18, "Determination of Price" table. This table calls for various proposed percentages by "Work Location", workforce type (Type I or Type II), and for SCA and non-SCA personnel. The table also provides, for comparison purposes only, "Estimated Direct Labor Cost Mix" which will be used to derive a single, weighted average rate. Since the "Estimated Direct Labor Cost Mix" percentages for SCA personnel, both at JPL and Contractor Facilities is zero (0%) for workforce Type II contracts, do offerors still need to provide the requested Attachment A-18 data for these SCA Type II personnel? If so, how will the provided data be evaluated? Will workforce Type II contracts include SCA personnel?

Answer 139

Proposers need to provide all rates as specified in Attachment A-18. It is anticipated that future Workforce Type II contracts may include SCA personnel. The rates will be evaluated both individually and as part of the weighted average.

140. Question

Is there automatic e-mail notification of updates or changes to the RFP on the web, or whether it is up to the vendor to check the web site daily?

Answer 140

Proposers who have identified themselves to Mary Johnson as being interested in this RFP are being notified by E-mail of addenda as they are issued on the TSEP RFP website. If you have not received E-mail notifications, contact Mary Johnson (at E-mail address Mary.L.Johnson@jpl.nasa.gov). It is prudent to check the website daily.

141. Question

Based on Answer 130 in Addendum No. 5, we have the following two questions.

- a) When a solicitation is issued, how long is it open?
- b) Why would a solicitation not be filled other than for cancellation of the requirement?

Answer 141

- a) A solicitation is open until filled or cancelled.
- b) Other than for cancellation, the only reason a solicitation would not be filled is the lack of an acceptable candidate.

142. Question

In Attachment B-17, page 5 of 10, labor categories are identified for current contractor personnel at JPL and contractor facilities. In some cases, these labor categories cannot be identified in the Workforce Type I categories shown in Attachment A-18, Page 3 of 3. Also, we believe that some current employee labor categories are not identified in the Workforce Type I categories. Is there a way to match current labor categories to those shown in the new Workforce Type I listing?

Answer 142

The job classifications in Attachment B-17 on page 5 of 10 are in the current contracts. They were based on the wage determinations for the existing contracts. Companies need to determine the SCA's applicability for each position and then conform according to the occupations in the RFP's SCA Wage Determination found in Exhibit 15.

143. Question

Pages 10, 15, 24, 28, and 42 in Exhibit 10, “JPL Information Technology Security Requirements for Computer Systems,” indicate: “...system is backed up weekly...”, “...changed files are backed up daily...”, “...backup media shall be retained for a minimum of 90 days...”. Does this requirement apply to systems in the off-Lab Contractor facility? Can daily change file backups be replaced in the archive by the weekly system backups, or must each day’s backup be retained for the full 90 days? The latter interpretation would require a large amount of storage media and quite a bit of storage space.

Answer¹⁴³

Yes, daily change-file backups are to be replaced in the archive by the weekly backups. The weekly backups must be retained for a minimum of 90 days. The backup requirements set forth in Exhibit 10 of the Specimen Contract apply if an off-Lab Contractor facility is using the JPL domain address (jpl.nasa.gov). Exhibit 10 does not apply to a Contractor using the company’s own domain address

Sincerely yours,

Mary L. Johnson
Member Acquisition Staff